

818-773-5362

COMMUNITY INTERVIEWS
7/17/91 9:00 A.M.

Gabrielle Pryor
City Manager, La Canada

NAS7.000785
NASA - JPL
SSIC No. 9661

She became aware of the problem in October 1990 when she became City Manager. She saw a newspaper article three months later about the Treatment Plant Dedication.

She's had no contact with gov't. officials.

She was vaguely aware of the history of site operations.

She knows Bill Rains and Kent Frewing who work at JPL.

She is concerned about old toxics that are still underground. Also concerned that these toxics may spill and become an airborne hazard in an earthquake. (Discussion took place regarding a misunderstanding about an alleged chlorine spill at JPL during the earthquake on June 28, 1991.)

She would like to be kept informed through news letter like our Fact Sheet, annual meetings (meetings with JPL mgmt. and city elected officials), annual progress reports.

She would like to know what chemicals and toxics are stored at JPL and what might be transported through La Canada. She wants to be assured that there is adequate protection for handling spills on site. She inquired as to JPL Emergency plans - wanted to make these plans be made known to surrounding community officials.

She suggested that we talk with the Fire Department and the Sheriff's office. She also suggested that getting an article printed in the La Canada Newsletter (prepared by M. Alexander [790-8880] and scheduled next printing Sept. 91) which goes to residents about 3 times a year.

Notes: Potlatch?

Kimberly A. Lieveuse
Date: _____

Pamela Blandino
Date: _____

COMMUNITY INTERVIEWS

7/17/91 9:00 A.M.

Gabrielle Pryor
City Manager, La Canada

This meeting is set to find out how your community would like to get its information on the environmental cleanup measure being taken at JPL. We have questions from the EPA that we must ask each community member interviewed and following the interviews we compile all the information and decided on the best ways.

Kim told her of the mailing list we are developing from the calls we have had from our article in the Pasadena In Focus. The PSO number was given in the article (In Focus goes to every member of the community about 7000) and people who want updates on our progress will call in to be put on an update list. We want to do the same with the LaCanada community.

GP said that their next newsletter to the whole community (prepared by Mark Alexander [790-8880] will go out in Sept. Kim then mentioned that the only other contact we've had with LaC on this issue was through spot contacts (N. Berkuda) city officials and word-of-mouth recommendations by those we've interviewed. Some don't want to be interviewed but would like to get our updates.

1. When did you first become aware of the problems ...
When she became City Manager in October 1990 and also by word of mouth. She read a newspaper article where Pasadena was to receive payment to clean up materials (something about the Water Control Board) and that kind of corroborated what she had heard by word of mouth. Kim mentioned that it was probably the Pasadena Star News Article on the dedication.

2. What contacts have you had with government officials ...
She has not spoken directly with anyone at JPL nor the Fed. Gov.

3. Are you aware of the history of site operations ...
Vaguely.

4. Do you know any of the parties who were involved in the site operations ...
Only current present day (P. Rains?), director Ken Cooley ? People like that.

5. What are your current concerns ...
City underground water pollution, old and/or unknown toxics buried, storage of toxic chemicals that may spill and be an air borne hazard to immediate community, particularly following an earthquake or fire. Kim said that she was probably thinking about the radio announcement, following the recent earthquake, of a chlorine spill. Kim later found that there was no spill when she was checking on the problems that LaCanada reported having following the earthquake.

La Canada wants to be able to coordinate (following any kind of emergency) with the Fed. Gov. or JPL or whoever. Kim had talked with one of JPL's security people who is responsible for the Emergency Plan when she heard that La Canada might have a problem. She found when the Sheriff's office was informed of JPL's actions following (earthquake) that the city didn't get word - from now on following any emergency when the Sheriff's office is called the city hall will also be called.

GP also mentioned that she had to report to the Fed. Gov. NOAA - La Canada is being sued for polluting the Santa Monica Bay (Fed. Gov. w/PCB's and DDT's running into the bay) - she had to say that JPL is one of the facilities that may be contributing to polluting through PCB's. Maybe they will get back to us - since JPL is Federal - the lawsuit is called the Potlatch Claim. It has been going on for a year. The judge threw out the NOAA lawsuit against Potlatch / NOAA had lawsuit going against Potlatch and others (several who may be polluting the area of Santa Monica Bay. NOAA sued them, they came back and filed a claim against every city (Potlatch did) saying it wasn't just them that were at fault but the sewer system that carries pollutants to the ocean. We (La Canada) had rejected the claim. she goes on... NOAA submitted lawsuit again and it gets very complicated (says GP). The Potlatch deposition asks LaC to tell what facilities they have in their city that might contribute to pollution of the bay, PCB's, toxic material - they ask specifically if there any aeronautical labs. or research facilities in the area and she had to say yes that JPL is there. She doesn't think that Pasadena said that JPL was in their area, so she put us on her list.

Kim said that everyone in the surrounding community has a piece of JPL. She said that we may hear about this from JPL's attorneys.

Kim then inquired a little about Potlatch paper co? They (Potlatch) say that their claim is against all the cities that might be involved, pollution is everyone's business (the gov. says that 80% of it is theirs). Potlatch lost 35 million and they want to recoup some of it from the surrounding areas. She said that indeed the Potlatch claim wasn't just against LaC but against any of the areas that contribute to the pollution.

6. Have you participated in activities concerning the site ...
Not the cleanup but occasionally.

7. How would you like to be involved in future activities ...
They would like to be kept informed and communicated with so they can protect their community.

8. How can we or EPA best provide you with the information ...
The update letter is great. A meeting would be helpful.

9. What kind of information do you need ...
Progress report - what chemicals and toxics are stored at JPL. What toxics are transported through the city. They would like to be assured that there is adequate protection equipment and crews on site to handle any special situations/emergencies.

10. How would you like to get information and how frequently ...
Written communication, every year. If the elected officials could have an oral one (1) hour meeting with JPL's administrators and security people annually. The JPL Adm. and LaC residents know each other. They talk informally. However, when they speak following an emergency it is usually in reaction and not very satisfactory - many LaC people get cranky following a problem, maybe because they aren't talking on some sort of **regular** basis.

11. Can you suggest other individuals for us to contact ...
Just the Fire Dept. and Sheriff's office those are the people who are in charge of protecting our city.

Kim mentioned that she has spoken with some in the Fire Department.

Pam then mentioned that most of the problems were begun back in the 40's and 50's and that what is happening now is much better.

GP said that the fact that JPL is **in control** and able to protect itself and the surrounding communities in case of emergencies needs to **filter down** the LaC elected officials. She said that they just need a little more of a secure feeling in this area and that the annual meeting would take care of this problem.

She said that her staff knows our staff and that the word just needs to get to the elected officials level, even though we all have better things to do.

Kim then stated that she had no more questions.

GP said that she assumed that we (JPL) are concerned even more than they. She must trust JPL to be prepared.

Pam mentioned that a year ago the JPL Fire Dept. was completely trained/certified to handle hazardous material and coordinate emergencies and plans for them. We also have a brand new hazardous waste storage facility.

GP said that she would tell here people not to worry and they now know who to call here. She also mentioned that they had a man with a radio at La Canada H.S. who saw JPL being evacuated following the earthquake and he was able to go to JPL and speak with someone who told him what was going on and he was able to relay that information back to LaC city hall.